



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

U.S. Diplomacy Center: Telling the Story, Paying Tribute and Teaching the Lessons of American Diplomacy

Why is the U.S. Diplomacy Center needed?

Despite the crucial role that diplomacy has played in American foreign affairs since the time of Benjamin Franklin and continues to play today, few Americans fully appreciate and understand diplomacy's significance.

Not one museum or national public education center in the country is devoted to delivering the message about diplomacy's past effectiveness and its impact on our every day lives. Yet, we live in a time that increasingly calls for more and better uses of diplomacy.

What is the Mission of the U.S. Diplomacy Center?

The U.S. Diplomacy Center's mission is to welcome the American people and visitors from around the world to the U.S. Department of State, explain why diplomacy matters and inspire future American generations to become involved.

The U.S. Diplomacy Center will be the nation's first dedicated museum and education center to engage the public in understanding the diplomatic challenges and achievements of the past, demystify the diplomatic process and recognize the contributions and sacrifices of American diplomats. The Center will employ interactive exhibits and innovative technology to tell Americans about the important and effective roles that diplomacy and development play in ensuring the peace, security and prosperity of our nation.

What has the U.S. Diplomacy Center accomplished?

Since its founding in 2000, the U.S. Diplomacy Center has been growing. Its exhibitions have appeared in the Main State Exhibition Hall and traveled across the U.S., attracting hundreds of thousands of viewers. Through the website (<http://diplomacy.state.gov>) and other technology, the U.S. Diplomacy Center disseminates its educational material and conducts classroom programs around the country linking American classrooms with those abroad. The Center also conducts conferences and forums, making them accessible to wide audiences.

Where is the U.S. Diplomacy Center located?

The proposed 30,000-square-foot museum and education center will be located at U.S. Department of State headquarters in Washington, DC. The administrative offices are located at 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW in Washington, DC.

How will the public access the U.S. Diplomacy Center?

Visitors to the U.S. Diplomacy Center will pass through airport-type security. A dramatic glass pavilion will welcome and orient visitors. From there, they will enter exhibition halls and education facilities. The entire Center will be outside the Department's security hard line.

United States Diplomacy Center Frequently Asked Questions

Who is the audience for the U.S. Diplomacy Center? How many visitors do you expect?

The U.S. Diplomacy Center will be a destination for tourists, families, teachers, students, business people, official Department of State visitors, Members of Congress and foreign dignitaries. With its proximity to other national monuments and museums, the Center expects to receive 300,000 or more visitors annually.

Who has endorsed the U.S. Diplomacy Center?

All living former Secretaries of State endorse the project to provide a permanent museum and education center at the U.S. Department of State and to expand the U.S. Diplomacy Center's exhibits and programs. Secretaries Kissinger and Albright hosted briefings for U.S. Diplomacy Center stakeholders in 2008, and Secretaries Baker and Powell will host additional briefings in the fall of 2009. The Center is identifying additional hosts to expand these informational events nationwide.

Twelve national foreign affairs organizations have endorsed the Center. Among these are Foreign Affairs Museum Council (FAMC), Council of American Ambassadors, American Foreign Service Association, Council on Foreign Affairs and American Academy of Diplomacy.

How will the U.S. Diplomacy Center be financed?

The Department of State has formed a public-private partnership with the Foreign Affairs Museum Council (FAMC), founded by Senator Charles Mathias, Ambassador Steven Low and other senior Foreign Service officers. The Department of State will contribute space, staff and security for the project. FAMC, with the participation of volunteer leaders, will raise private funds to build and endow the U.S. Diplomacy Center. The FAMC has raised an initial \$1.25 million for the Center. Several major foundations already have contributed to the U.S. Diplomacy Center, including Carnegie Corporation of New York, Annenberg Foundation, John Whitehead Foundation, Una Chapman Cox Foundation and Dillon Fund.

Is a capital campaign being conducted to raise private support? What is the goal?

Yes. The U.S. Diplomacy Center is conducting a capital campaign with a goal of \$50 million.

Through briefings and individual meetings, the Center is currently informing stakeholders and recruiting leaders to create a volunteer-led campaign cabinet. The U.S. Diplomacy Center's campaign prospectus presents the case for support and enumerates specific opportunities for major donors and other contributors to receive appropriate public recognition.

Are contributions to the U.S. Diplomacy Center tax-deductible?

Yes. Tax-deductible contributions to support the U.S. Diplomacy Center may be made payable to the **Foreign Affairs Museum Council** [a 501(c)(3) organization] or **U.S. Department of State** (designated for the **U.S. Diplomacy Center Gift Fund**) and sent to the address below.

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